

SENATE BILL 532

P2

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CF HB 1007

By: **Senators Smith, Bailey, Carozza, Cassilly, Edwards, Elfreth, Ellis, Gallion, Jennings, Patterson, Peters, Ready, Salling, and Simonaire**

Introduced and read first time: January 30, 2020

Assigned to: Finance

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 28, 2020

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study the Veteran–Owned Small Business Enterprise Program**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study the Veteran–Owned Small
4 Business Enterprise Program; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of
5 the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain
6 compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the
7 Task Force to study and make recommendations regarding certain matters;
8 requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor
9 and the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination
10 of this Act; and generally relating to the Task Force to Study the Veteran–Owned
11 Small Business Enterprise Program.

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
13 That:

14 (a) In this section, “veteran–owned small business enterprise” has the meaning
15 stated in § 14–601 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.

16 (b) There is a Task Force to Study the Veteran–Owned Small Business Enterprise
17 Program.

18 (c) The Task Force consists of the following members:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of
2 the Senate, of whom one shall be the Chair of the Maryland Senate Veterans Caucus, or
3 the Chair's designee;

4 (2) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of
5 the House, of whom one shall be the Chair of the Maryland House Veterans Caucus, or the
6 Chair's designee;

7 (3) one representative of a privately operated veteran-owned small
8 business enterprise, appointed by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs;

9 (4) one representative of a privately operated minority-owned business,
10 appointed by the Secretary of General Services; ~~and~~

11 (5) the National Director of the National Center for Veteran Institute for
12 Procurement, or the National Director's designee; and

13 (6) the following ex officio members:

14 (i) the Secretary of Commerce, or the Secretary's designee;

15 (ii) the Secretary of General Services, or the Secretary's designee;

16 (iii) the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, or the Secretary's designee;

17 and

18 (iv) one representative of the Governor's Office of Small, Minority,
19 and Women Business Affairs, appointed by the Governor.

20 (d) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall jointly select
21 the chair of the Task Force.

22 (e) ~~The Department of General Services~~ Governor's Office of Small, Minority, and
23 Women Business Affairs shall provide staff for the Task Force.

24 (f) A member of the Task Force:

25 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but

26 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State
27 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

28 (g) (1) The Task Force shall study and make specific recommendations
29 regarding:

30 (i) opportunities for veteran-owned small business enterprises to
31 participate in State procurement contracts; and

1 (ii) the improvement of the State’s veteran–owned small business
2 enterprise program, including:

3 1. increasing veteran–owned small business enterprise
4 program participation rates;

5 2. integrating the veteran–owned small business enterprise
6 program with the minority business enterprise program and the small business reserve
7 program;

8 3. designating a lead agency to provide accountability for the
9 veteran–owned small business enterprise program;

10 4. increasing oversight across participating State agencies;
11 and

12 5. boosting the overall performance of the veteran–owned
13 small business enterprise program.

14 (2) The Task Force may establish subcommittees as necessary to fulfill its
15 duties under this subsection.

16 (h) On or before December 1, 2020, the Task Force shall report its findings and
17 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State
18 Government Article, the General Assembly.

19 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
20 1, 2020. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30, 2021, this
21 Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no
22 further force and effect.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.